# BOROUGH OF WIND GAP 545 East West Street WIND GAP, PA 18091 610-863-7288 FAX 610-863-1011

The Council meeting of the Borough of Wind Gap on Tuesday, June 21, 2022 was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice President Dave Manzo, at which time he reminded those present that the meeting was being recorded. In attendance were Council members David Hess, Steve Bender, J. Yob, and Alex Cortezzo. Also, in attendance were Mayor Wesley J. Smith, Borough Solicitor Ronald Karasek, Borough Engineer Brian Pysher, and Borough Manager Louise Firestone. Absent were Councilmen George Hinton and Patrick Webber.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Wind Gap Fire Company – The Captain of the Wind Gap Fire Company came before Council to discuss the EMC position. He said that position should be support personnel to get what they need. He stated that it is not the EMC's job to run to their calls, cancel calls or have them respond under caution. The current EMC is not an officer or a Wind Gap Fire Company member and they would appreciate it if he would not show up to their calls.

Alex Cortezzo said, so is the Wind Gap Fire Company saying that they do not want the Emergency Management Coordinator of the Borough at their calls or scenes. The captain said that they are not saying that they do not want them at the any of their scenes, but just showing up voluntarily, trying to cancel them, or acting as a Fire Officer. An EMC Is just an aid to the Fire Company, a resource in helping them to accomplish a task when they need help.

# **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**On motion** by Jeff Yob to approve the June 6, 2022 minutes and seconded by Steve Bender. Roll call vote taken. In favor: S. Bender. D. Hess, D. Manzo, Jeff Yob. Abstained: A. Cortezzo. Motion carried: 4 - 0 - 1.

# **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Slate Belt Regional Police Dept Correspondence – Meeting – Dave Hess reported that the Police Commission has been negotiating the rent overpayment made by the Slate Belt Regional Police Department to Plainfield Township. Plainfield Township did not charge SBRPD rent for calendar year 2022 in order to make the commission whole. Unfortunately, the amount of the overcharge would constitute six more months which would need to be credited in 2023. At the last commission meeting, there was a supervisor from Plainfield Township who attended the meeting, which is totally fine because it is a public meeting. However, during the discussion, that supervisor became part of the discussion. Plainfield has five supervisors, two sit on the commission and with the additional one in the audience and being active during the rent payment discussion that would give them a quorum. So, in essence they had a supervisors meeting going on in the middle of a commission meeting and because of his participation, the Commission got the feel of what most of Plainfield Township board was going to do regarding the outstanding overpayment. Dave stated that he believes this is an unfair advantage and a violation of the Sunshine Law. At one point the Chairperson and the Representative of

Plainfield got up, went into the hall in the middle of the meeting and had a side-bar. Wind Gap was not included. He thinks we need to send the commission a letter saying that we will not tolerate it. As far as having side-bars and supervisors' meetings going on during a commission that has to stop and that is up to the chairperson. He is recommending that we send the Commission a letter stating our concerns and it needs to be stopped.

**On motion** by Dave Hess to send a letter to the Slate Belt Regional Police Commission and their Solicitor outlining Wind Gap Borough's concerns regarding the Sunshine Act Violation and seconded by Jeff Yob. Roll call taken. Council agreed unanimously

2. Green Knight Drive – GK Industrial Park II – Modification of Land Development – Jeremy Schadler from Acela Architects & Engineers came before Council regarding 20 Green Knight Drive. Mr. Schadler is here to present proposed changes that have occurred and ask for guidance regarding the planning process. Mr. Schadler has discussed this with Brian Pysher and Attorney Karasek and they both recommended to appear before Council to outline what the potential changes would be for their prospective occupant. They are proposing making the building bigger, removing one of the driveways and loading docks. Mr. Schadler went over the drawing changes for Council and asked for feedback. Brian Pysher said he does not know if they have to do a new submission, they can do a revision and go back to the Planning Commission.

On motion by Jeff Yob to send the 20 Green Knight Drive modification of Land Development to the Planning Commission as a revised plan, no new application required, they need to replenish the Escrow accounts so that the review by the planning profession be covered and seconded by Alex Cortezzo. Roll call taken. Council agreed unanimously

3. Lincoln St. Paving Project Contract Deadline Date Discussion/Action – Brian Pysher reported that he along with Dominic Bracalente, George Hinton and Dave Manzo met on site to assess the curbing. Steve Bender asked if all the curbs are functional in their current state. Brian replied that they may not look new, but that they are functional. Jeff added that he went to look at the street and curbs also.

**On motion** by Jeff Yob not to repair the curbs based on the recommendation that the curbs are in place and acceptable from an engineering stand point and that the Borough does not add on to the project and move forward as contracted and seconded by Steve Bender. Roll call taken. Council agreed unanimously.

4. July Council Meetings – July 5<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> or hold both meetings as scheduled.

**On motion** by Steve Bender to cancel the July 5, 2022 Council meeting and seconded by Jeff Yob. Roll call taken. Council agreed unanimously.

5. Wind Gap Municipal Authority Resignation – Marguerite Mullin –

On motion by Jeff Yob to table the resignation of Marguerite Mullin until our next Council meeting and seconded by Steve Bender. Roll call taken. Council agreed unanimously.

6. Ord No. 401 - Handicap Parking Request/Approval - 237 Fairview Avenue-

**On motion** by Jeff Yob to approve the handicap parking request for 237 Fairview Avenue based on the documentation submitted to the office and seconded by Alex Cortezzo. Roll call taken. Council agreed unanimously.

7. Grant Awards - Louise Firestone reported that the Borough did not receive any grant funding through the AARP grant to that was applied for to purchase and install a new pavilion up at the park. The AARP grant was open to the entire country and it was reported that over 3,200 applications were received and unfortunately our application was not funded. She just got work from Livable Landscapes in Northampton County that they had a reduction in the amount of money they were awarding, therefore we did not receive any money from Livable Landscapes this year.

# **OLD BUSINESS**

1. T. Klump - Third St. Land Development Improvements Agreement Approval and Third St. Easement Agreement Approval - Attorney Karasek suggest that Mr. Klump sign the documents, have they notarized and bring they to the office to be signed by Borough Officials.

**On motion** by Jeff Yob to request that Mr. Klump sign and notarize the documents then bring them to the office for Council Officials to sign and seconded by Steve Bender. Roll call taken. Council agreed unanimously. Motion withdrawn

Brian Pysher reported that there are still some outstanding items that need to be addressed. He will forward a letter to Mr. Klump regarding these items.

**On motion** by Alex Cortezzo to table Mr. Klump's townhouse agreements until Council receives an updated review letter from the Borough Engineer and seconded by Steve Bender. Roll call taken. Council agreed unanimously.

# **COMMITTEE REPORT**

A written committee report was provided to Mayor Smith and Council.

### Mayor Smith's Report

Mayor Smith reported that he presented the Mayor's Scholarship Award to a graduating senior from Pen Argyl. He also attended the Boy Scout Camporee and presented awards to the hikers that hiked the trail last year. He thanked George Hinton and Louise Firestone for coordinating the event. The COG meeting is tomorrow evening, he will be in attendance.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**On motion** by Steve Bender to adjourn the meeting of June 21, 2022. Council agreed unanimously. The meeting of June 21, 2022 adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

ouise Firestone, Borough Manager